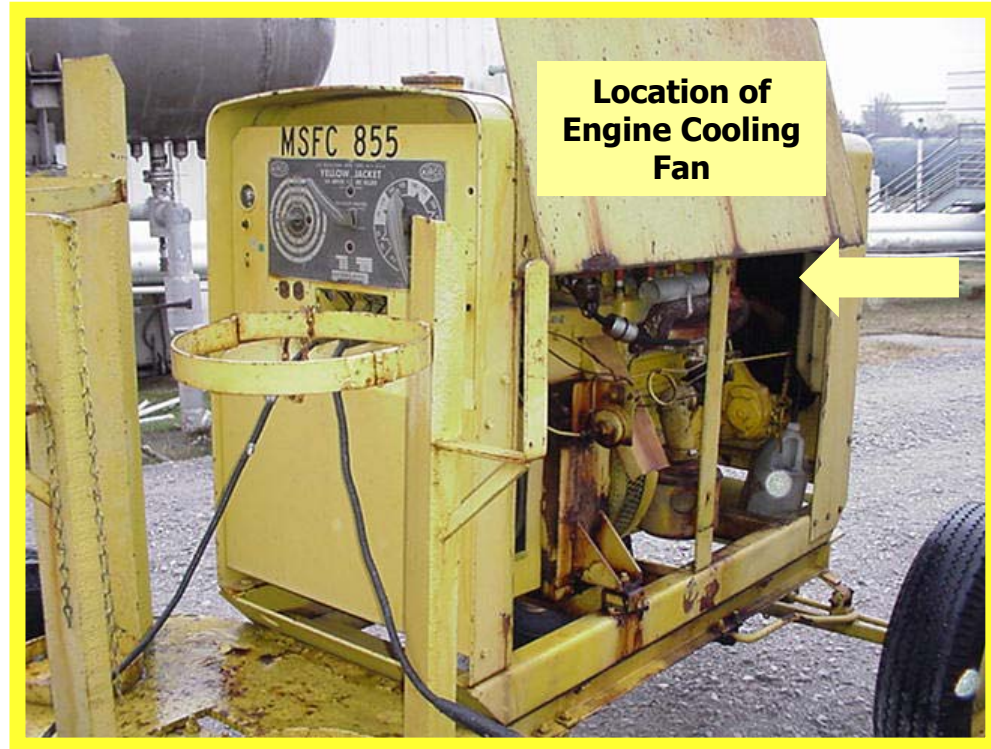


# MSFC Safety *Bulletin*

## Avoid Contact With Moving and Rotating Machine Parts

### What Happened?

- An employee was operating a welding machine outside of Building 4777. He wanted to adjust the engine idle on the welding machine, to gain more control over the output current he needed to complete the weld.
- He raised the side cover guarding the engine, and reached into the engine compartment to adjust the idle.
- The idle adjustment operation requires a running engine. This enables the mechanic to gauge the effect of incremental idle control changes on engine operating speeds.
- The employee's right hand came into contact with the spinning blades of the engine cooling fan, resulting in serious laceration of two fingers. The injury required medical treatment, but did not require days away from work for healing.



### What Can Be Done?

- Assure welding machine operators and other appropriate personnel are trained in recognizing the injury hazards posed by moving and rotating machine parts. Review safe work practices used to reduce potential for hand injuries.
- Review the operator's manual and/or provide training on the adjustments that operating personnel are authorized to perform, versus those that require a mechanic.